

SAN DIEGO COUNTY TRAFFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING OF
January 24, 2014

Traffic Advisory Committee Members

| | |
|---|--------------------------|
| Automobile Club of Southern California | Mr. Hamid Bahadori |
| Board of Supervisors District 2 Representative | Mr. Walter Lake |
| Board of Supervisors Districts 3 & 5 Representative | Mr. Bob Campbell |
| California Department of Transportation | Mr. Brian Hadley |
| California Highway Patrol - San Diego | Absent |
| California Highway Patrol - Oceanside | Officer Jimmy Gaffney |
| California Highway Patrol - El Cajon | Officer Kevin Pearlstein |
| California Highway Patrol - Border | Absent |
| Independent Insurance Agents & Brokers of San Diego | Mr. Bob Fleischman |
| Pacific Safety Center | Absent |
| San Diego County Sheriff's Department | Lt. Julius Faulkner |
| San Diego County Office of Education | Mr. Dennis Sulzer |
| San Diego County Bicycle Coalition | Absent |
| Department of Public Works | Mr. Mike Kenney |
| Department of Public Works | Mr. Murali Pasumarthi |

Traffic Advisory Committee Administration

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Traffic Advisory Committee Secretary | Ms. Giselle Finley |
| Traffic Advisory Committee Staff | Mrs. Patricia Johnson-Horsman |
| Traffic Advisory Committee Staff | Mrs. Maria Rubio-Lopez |

SAN DIEGO COUNTY TRAFFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

January 24, 2014

MINUTES

- I. Call to Order / Roll Call**
- II. Pledge of Allegiance**
- III. Items for Review**

| SUBJECT | LOCATION | AREA | PLANNING/ SPONSOR GROUP |
|----------------|-----------------|-------------|------------------------------------|
|----------------|-----------------|-------------|------------------------------------|

SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 2

| | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| A. SPEED LIMIT REVIEW | TAVERN ROAD | ALPINE | ALPINE |
| B. MID-BLOCK CROSSWALK | ALPINE BOULEVARD | ALPINE | ALPINE |

SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 5

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------|
| A. SPEED LIMIT REVIEW | POINSETTIA AVENUE | VISTA/SAN MARCOS | N/A |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------|

SAN DIEGO COUNTY TRAFFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE REPORT OF: January 24, 2014

Item 2-A

SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT: 2

SUBJECT: Speed Limit Review

LOCATION: Tavern Road from the north line of South Grade Road northerly to the south line of Arnold Way (1.4 miles)
ALPINE (Thos. Bros. 1254-A2) Alpine Community Planning Group

INITIATED BY: DPW Traffic Engineering

REQUEST: Speed Limit Review

PROBLEM AS STATED BY REQUESTER:

Tavern Road is posted 50 MPH and is radar enforced at the existing 50 MPH speed limit. Recent speed survey results could support a 45 MPH posting.

Existing Traffic Devices

Tavern Road, from South Grade Road to Arnold Way, is a striped two-lane roadway that varies from 29 to 58 feet in width. There is edge striping on both sides of the roadway. All of the appropriate school zone signage is in place in the vicinity of the middle and elementary schools. The road is posted 50 MPH/Radar Enforced. Tavern Road is classified as a Light Collector Road in this segment, on the County General Plan Mobility Element Network.

Average Daily Traffic Volumes 11/10 7/02

| | | |
|------------------------------|--------|--------|
| Tavern Road: | | |
| 350' S/o Dewitt Estates Road | 7,130* | |
| S/o Arnold Way | | 9,610* |
| N/o South Grade Road | | 7,200* |

*Two-Way Count

| <u>Spot Speed Data</u> | <u>85th Percentile</u> | <u>10 MPH Pace</u> | <u>% in Pace</u> |
|--------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Tavern Road: | | | |
| 620' S/o Dewitt Estates | (2013) 48.0 MPH | 38-47 | 69.0% |
| | (2010) 51.0 MPH | 41-50 | 63.1% |
| 240' N/o Roble Grande Rd | (2013) 48.0 MPH | 40-49 | 72.0% |
| | (2010) 50.0 MPH | 39-48 | 55.9% |

Collision Data

There have been 17 reported collisions along this segment of roadway in a five year period, three that involved pedestrian injuries and one that involved a fatality (9-01-08 to 8-31-13).

Discussion

The California Vehicle Code requires the establishment of speed zones be made on the basis of an Engineering and Traffic survey as outlined in the California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CA MUTCD). The most critical input to this survey are the results of the radar speed check data indicating the prevailing (85th percentile) speed of motorists. This prevailing speed is the speed at or below which 85% of the motorists are found to be traveling. Speed limits are usually set at the 5 MPH increment nearest this prevailing speed. This State law prescribed method ensures the posted speed limit conforms to the consensus of those who drive the road and thus represents the maximum reasonable and safe speed. This method acknowledges that the majority of motorists drive in a reasonable and prudent manner.

In 2010, the existing 50 MPH speed limit on Tavern Road was certified for continued radar speed enforcement. Presently, the results of both recent speed surveys indicate 85th percentile speeds of 48.0 MPH. The Committee noted speeds are trending down. In addition, there is a strong pedestrian presence associated with Boulder Oaks Elementary School and Joan McQueen Middle School. Both are posted with adjacent signage of "25 MPH When Children Are Present" with flashing yellow beacons during arrival and dismissal times. In addition, the roadway's pedestrian presence is further enhanced by a nearby large apartment complex, church, Alpine Sand Toys Park, Alpine Historical Society Museum and Gym Trix, a popular recreational complex. Although, Tavern Road has been posted 50 MPH since 1984 and radar enforced since 1990, the Committee believes these conditions no longer support the current posting and are more representative of a 45 MPH speed limit posting.

The El Cajon-California Highway Patrol (CHP) representative stated his office maintains a visible presence along Tavern Road. The proposed 45 MPH speed limit, coupled with continued radar speed enforcement, is reasonable and reflective of existing conditions, and will increase the level of comfort for all utilizing this segment of Tavern Road.

A representative from the Alpine Community Planning Group indicated it has been a long-standing community desire for a lower speed limit along Tavern Road and stated support for a 45 MPH speed limit posting with continued radar enforcement.

Recommendation

The Committee recommends the Board of Supervisors amend the existing 50 MPH speed limit on Tavern Road, from the north line of South Grade Road northerly to the south line of Arnold Way, to 45 MPH with continued radar speed enforcement.

Maker: Kenney, Second: Faulkner, Vote: 10-0

Necessary Board Action

Amend Section 72.169.88. of Division 2 of Title 7 of Article 11 of the San Diego County Code.

SAN DIEGO COUNTY TRAFFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE REPORT OF: January 24, 2014 **Item 2-B**

SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT: 2

SUBJECT: Mid-Block Crosswalk

LOCATION: Alpine Boulevard, at a point 660 feet west of Boulders Road, ALPINE (Thos. Bros. 1234-A6) Alpine Community Planning Group

INITIATED BY: DPW Traffic Engineering

REQUEST: Establish a Mid-Block Crosswalk

PROBLEM AS STATED BY REQUESTER:

DPW-Traffic Engineering is proceeding forward with a request for the installation of a Mid-Block Crosswalk on Alpine Boulevard to benefit Alpine Elementary School.

Existing Traffic Devices

Alpine Boulevard is a striped two-lane roadway that measures approximately 42 feet wide in the vicinity of the proposed mid-block crosswalk. The road is posted 35 MPH/Radar Enforced with the appropriate advanced school notification signs and pavement legends. This roadway is classified as a Collector on the County General Plan Mobility Element Network.

Average Daily Traffic Volumes **9/10**

| | |
|---|---------|
| Alpine Boulevard: 200 ft E/o Tavern Road | 10,630* |
|---|---------|

* Two-Way Count

Pedestrian Study

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 10-29-13 (8:15 to 9:15 AM) | 10-29-13 (3:00 to 4:00 PM) |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|

42

85

Collision Data

There have been no reported collisions involving pedestrians in the vicinity of the proposed mid-block crosswalk location in the last five years (09-01-08 to 08-31-13).

Discussion

Resulting from recent field meetings between Alpine Union School District representatives, California Highway Patrol (CHP), interested citizens and Department of Public Works (DPW) staff, community support for the installation of a mid-block crosswalk in front of Alpine Elementary School was identified. The mid-block crosswalk would facilitate and enhance the existing facilities to accommodate school associated and community pedestrian traffic in this area.

The proposed mid-block location meets several criteria listed in the Board approved County of San Diego Traffic Guidelines. The identified location meets the distance requirement to exceed 800 feet between adjacent intersections, has a demonstrated pedestrian demand, the existing 35 MPH posted speed limit is less than the 45 MPH upper threshold and has more than adequate sight distance.

The Committee concurred the proposed mid-block crosswalk location is reasonable and appropriate. However, concern was expressed with motorist expectation and the roadway's present configuration was deemed inappropriate for installation. The need for a coordinated engineering effort to improve existing roadway geometrics to support all associated with a mid-block crosswalk installation was deemed essential. DPW staff indicated that a future Capital Improvement Project (CIP) will improve Alpine Boulevard in the vicinity of Alpine Elementary School. The project will include the extension of sidewalk and removal of existing guardrail along the south side and installation of in-pavement lights with associated equipment at the proposed mid-block crosswalk to facilitate all pedestrian crossings. The proposed location will provide connectivity to the existing pedestrian ramp on the north side of Alpine Boulevard and will channelize school-associated pedestrians to a single crossing point and eliminate the current disjointed pedestrian crossings that are occurring.

The Alpine Elementary Union School District supports the proposed mid-block crosswalk and has committed to provide adult crossing guards to assist during school arrival and dismissal times. The District will also provide advanced notification and seminars to educate staff, parents and children on the appropriate operation of the in-pavement lights crossing system.

A representative from the Alpine Community Planning Group indicated the community's concern with existing conditions and supports the installation of the proposed mid-block crosswalk.

Recommendation

The Committee recommends the establishment of a mid-block crosswalk on Alpine Boulevard at a point 660 feet northwest of Boulders Road.

Maker: Kenney, Second: Campbell, Vote: 10-0

Necessary Board Action

Add Section 72.181.1. to Division 2 of Title 7 of Article 13 of the San Diego County Code.

SAN DIEGO COUNTY TRAFFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE REPORT OF: January 24, 2014

Item 5-A

SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT: 5

SUBJECT: Speed Limit

LOCATION: Poinsettia Avenue from the south line of Oleander Avenue southerly to the Vista/San Marcos City Limits (near Grand Avenue) (0.36 miles), VISTA/SAN MARCOS (Thos. Bros. 1108-C4)

INITIATED BY: California Highway Patrol-Oceanside Office

REQUEST: Speed Limit

PROBLEM AS STATED BY REQUESTER:

Poinsettia Avenue is currently unposted. Due to ongoing speed-related complaints from local residents and its close proximity of Joli Ann Leichtag Elementary School we are interested in the review for the establishment of a formal speed limit. The adjacent southern portion in the Cities of Vista/San Marcos is posted 45 MPH.

DATA:

Existing Traffic Devices

Poinsettia Avenue is a striped two-lane roadway that measures 27 feet wide. There is an all-way stop control at Oleander Avenue. The road is unposted. This roadway is unclassified on the County General Plan Mobility Element Network.

Average Daily Traffic Volumes 10/13

Poinsettia Avenue:
700' S/o Oleander Avenue 6,500*

* Two-Way Count

| <u>Spot Speed Data</u> | <u>85th Percentile</u> | <u>10 MPH Pace</u> | <u>% in Pace</u> |
|--|---------------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| Poinsettia Avenue: 700' S/o Oleander Avenue | 42.0 MPH | 31-40 | 71.0% |

Collision Data

There have been no reported collisions along this segment of roadway in a five-year period (09-01-08 to 08-31-13).

Discussion

The California Vehicle Code requires the establishment of speed zones be made on the basis of an Engineering and Traffic Survey as outlined in the California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices. The most critical input to this survey are the results of a radar speed study indicating the prevailing (85th percentile) speed of motorists. This prevailing speed is the speed at or below which 85% of the motorists are found to be traveling. Speed limits are usually set at the 5 MPH increment nearest this prevailing speed. This state law prescribed method ensures the posted speed limit conforms to the consensus of those who drive the road and thus represents the maximum reasonable and safe speed. This method acknowledges that the majority of motorists drive in a reasonable and prudent manner.

Poinsettia Avenue is presently unposted and regulated by the Statewide Maximum of 55 MPH for a two-lane roadway. The result of the recent prevailing speed (42.0 MPH) and roadway conditions support a formal speed limit posting of 40 MPH along with certification for radar speed enforcement. Poinsettia Avenue serves as a connecting link between the Vista and San Marcos City Limits. The County maintained portion is a narrow straight residential-in-nature roadway, with a significant grade, that flattens and widens into a busy commercial artery in the Cities of Vista and San Marcos.

The Representative from Districts 3 and 5 expressed personal experience with this roadway and stated operating conditions have remained constant and due to roadway geometrics may not be an appropriate candidate for a widening project. He indicated the proposed 40 MPH speed limit is reasonable and reflective of the road's existing operating conditions.

The Representative from the CHP-Oceanside Office stated support for the proposed 40 MPH speed limit posting with radar speed certification to further enhance enforcement and curtail existing speeding concerns along Poinsettia Avenue and in front of nearby Joli Ann Leichtag Elementary School.

Recommendation

The Committee recommends the Board of Supervisors establish a formal 40 MPH speed limit, with radar speed enforcement certification, on Poinsettia Avenue from the south line of Oleander Avenue southerly to the Vista/San Marcos City Limits.

Maker: Kenney, Second: Sulzer, Vote: 10-0

Necessary Board Action

Add Section 72.161.88. to Division 2 of Title 7 of Article 11 of the San Diego County Code.

TRAFFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MEETING OF:
January 24, 2014


KENTON R. JONES
Secretary

DISTRIBUTION:

Board of Supervisors, Clerk
Director, Department of Public Works
DCAO